

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition for transmucosal administration of a bioactive peptide or protein of interest comprising said bioactive peptide or protein of interest, a cationic polyamino acid, and a compatible buffer, wherein at the pH of the composition said compatible buffer does not cause precipitation of the cationic polyamino acid, and has a mono-anionic or neutral net charge; and

wherein the bioactive peptide or protein of interest has the same net charge as the cationic polyamino acid at the pH of the composition; and

wherein the transmucosal absorption of said bioactive peptide or protein is increased relative the absorption of said bioactive peptide or protein in the absence of said cationic polyamino acid.

2. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the pH of said composition is between about pH 4.0 and about pH 6.0.

3. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the pH of said composition is between about pH 4.0 and pH 5.0.

4. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said compatible buffer is selected from the group consisting of acetic acid, ϵ -aminocaproic acid or glutamic acid.

5. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said compatible buffer comprises glutamic acid.

6. (Original) The composition of claim 1, further comprising a tonicifying agent, a viscosity-increasing agent, a bio adhesive agent, a preservative, or any combination thereof.

7. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said cationic polyamino acid comprises poly-histidine, poly-arginine, poly-lysine, or any combination thereof.